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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/380,579	09/07/1999	SUSUMU IKEHARA	Q55691	2802

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EXAMINER

BELYAVSKYI, MICHAIL A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1644

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/380,579

Applicant(s)

IKEHARA ET AL.

Examiner

Michail A Belyavskyi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 June 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9 and 10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 06/22/04 has been entered.

Claims 9 and 10 are under consideration in the instant application.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 9-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slavin, S et al., (US Patent 6,428,782) in view of Ildstad (US Patent. No. 5,514,364) and Zhang et al. (Eur. J. Immunol. 24 :1558-1565, IDS) for the same reasons set forth in the previous Office Action, mailed 10/20/03.

Applicant's arguments, filed 06/22/04 have been fully considered, but have not been found convincing.

Applicant asserts that: (i) US Patent '782 teach that total body radiation (TBI) is not preferred and when it was employed, the conditions was 4.0Gy i.e. outside the claimed range of at least 6.5 Gy; also US Patent '782 not teach transplanting of organ into recipient within the same day; (ii) US Patent '364 does not disclose a technique usable for a one-day protocol by which an

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engraftment rate of 100% can be achieved because the teaching used by US Patent ,364 results in a progressive loss of donor bone marrow cells with the result that transplanted organs are rejected and points to Ikebukuro et al and Hayashi et al for support for this statement; US Patent '364 relates to a technique using mixed chimerism, which is different from the present invention, which uses allogenic chimerism; (iii) Zhang et al merely teaches a technique without total body irradiation; (iv) from the combination of the teaching in US Patent '782 and Us Patent '364 one would not employ TBI since there is no recognition that TBI would be advantageous;

Applicants have traversed the primary and the secondary references pointing to the differences between the claims and the disclosure in each reference. Applicant is respectfully reminded that the rejection is under 35 USC103 and that unobviousness cannot be established by attacking the references individually when the rejection is based on the combination of the references. see In re Keller, 642 F.2d 4B, 208 USPQ 871, 882 (CCPA 1981) See MPEP 2145. This applicant has not done, but rather argues the references individually and not their combination. One cannot show non-obviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on a combination of references. In re Young 403 F.2d 759, 150 USPQ 725 (CCPA 1968).

It appears that applicant and the examiner differ on interpretation of both the claimed methods and the prior art. As was stated in the previous Office Action, it is the Examiner position, that US Patent '782 teaches a method of inducing immunological tolerance in an organ transplantation recipient by subjecting the recipient to sublethal total body irradiation (TBI) and administering to the recipient whole bone marrow. Applicants attention is respectfully directed to column 8, lines 57-67, where it is specifically stated that " if TBI is used it should be at a dose level that causes no servere or irreversible pancytopenia. US Patent '782 teaches that transplanting of organ into recipient occurs within the same day as whole bone cells are administered (see column 13, lines 50-67, column 14, lines 10-15 and Example 14 in particular). US Patent '782 teaches engraftment rate of 100 % is achieved (see example 14 in particular).

US Patent '782 does not teaches that sublethal total body irradiation of at least 6.5 Gy or 6.5 Gy to 7.0 Gy and administering whole bone marrow cells by hepatic portal administration.

US Patent '364 teaches and claims a method of conditioning of a recipient intended for organ grafting by subjecting the recipient to sublethal total body irradiation and administering to the recipient whole bone marrow (see entire document, but especially the claims and columns 5, 8, 17 and 21-22). Applicant's attention is respectfully directed to column 9, lines 15-20 where it is explicitly stated that " the importance of the hematopoietic niches or "space" contributed by the low dose of TBI is even more evident when TBI is given one week prior to bone marrow transplantation...". Clearly one skill in the art would interpret said statement as an evidence of

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the advantage of using TBI. With respect to the issue that US Patent '364 relates to a technique using mixed chimerism not allogenic chimerism. Applicant's attention is respectfully directed to column 9, line 5-10 and column 19, lines 15-45, wherein it is clearly stated that US Patent '364 invention uses allogenic chimerism as well. However, it is noted that the instant claims 9 and 10 do not recited a technique using fully allogenic chimerism.

Moreover, US Patent '364 also teaches that bone marrow engraftment after sublethal total body irradiation is reliably achieved in 100% of recipients at 7.0 Gy (see Figure 1 and column 17, especially lines 4-25). US Patent '364 further teaches transplantation of organs to the bone marrow recipient and exemplifies skin transplantation, showing that the recipients are specifically tolerant of the donor-type skin (see e.g., Abstract and columns 21-22).

With respect to the references cited by the Applicant, the experiments described by Ikebukuro et al and Hayashi et al., can not be used because said references use a different experimental procedure to condition the recipient –lethal irradiation of 10 Gy and T cell depleted bone marrow transplantation. Applicant acknowledge that procedure to condition a recipient is essential for the present invention (see Applicant's response filed 06/22/04, page 2 in particular).

Zhang et al. teach that in both intravenous and portal vein injections of bone marrow cells (BMC), most of the cells migrate to the liver, although more BMC do so after portal vein administration than after intravenous administration (see entire document, especially Figures 3 and 5 and page 1563 at the 4th full paragraph). Zhang et al. also review the art recognized prolongation of organ graft survival in a recipient when cells from the donor are administered to the recipient via the portal vein in addition to the transplanted organ, and note that this is due to a form of immunological tolerance (see especially the "Introduction" on page 1558 and the 1st paragraph of "Discussion" on page 1563).

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the teaching of US Patent '364 and Zhang et al., to those of US Patent '782 to obtain a claimed method comprising administering to an organ transplant recipient total body sublethal irradiation of at least 6.5 Gy or 6.5 Gy to 7.0 Gy and administering whole bone marrow cells by hepatic portal administration.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to combine sublethal irradiation about 7.0 Gy as taught by US Patent '364 and administration of the bone marrow cells via the hepatic portal vein to provide an improved method for inducing immunological tolerance in an organ transplantation recipient, as taught by Zhang et al with a method of inducing immunological tolerance in an organ transplantation recipient, taught by US Patent '782. Finally, given the art recognized time constraints associated with transplanting cells and organs from the same human donor; one of ordinary skill in the art would have also been motivated to transplant the organ within the same day as the whole bone marrow cells.

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The strongest rationale for combining references is a recognition, expressly or impliedly in the prior art or drawn from a convincing line of reasoning based on established scientific principles or legal precedent, that some advantage or expected beneficial result would have been produced by their combination. *In re Semaker*. 217 USPQ 1, 5 - 6 (Fed. Cir. 1983). See MPEP 2144. Further, it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 220 F2d 454, 456, 105 USPQ 233; 235 (CCPA 1955). see MPEP § 2144.05 part II A.

Specific statements in the references themselves which would spell out the claimed invention are not necessary to show obviousness, since questions of obviousness involves not only what references expressly teach, but what they would collectively suggest to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *CTS Com. v. Electro Materials Corp. of America* 202 USPQ 22 (DC SINY); and *In re Burckel* 201 USPQ 67 (CCPA).

From the combined teaching of the references, it is apparent that one of ordinary skill in the art would have had a reasonable expectation of success in producing the claimed invention. Therefore, the invention as a whole was *prima facie* obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, as evidenced by the references, especially in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

4. No claim is allowed.

5. This is a RCE of applicant's earlier Application No. 09/380,579 . All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the earlier application and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the earlier application. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a first action in this case. See MPEP § 706.07(b). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no, however, event will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michail Belyavskiy whose telephone number is 571/272-0840. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM. A message may be left on the examiner's voice mail service. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan can be reached on 571/272-0841.

The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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